



# QAE News: 9/14/18



STARTING MONDAY MORNING MEETINGS IN OUR AUDITORIUM NEXT MONDAY!

**Great News!** It is with great joy that we announce that our new school counselor is Ms. Paulina Cuevas. Paulina went to Chile this week and visa renewal was approved. She is now officially our QAE school counselor! Once she receives her visa documents, she will return to Seattle and begin at QAE. She will be on site Monday's to Thursday's.

In addition to being a certified K - 12 counselor, Paulina is also a certified Positive Discipline trainer. She has her graduate certificate in LGBT Health Policy and Practices. She has been a school counselor, worked for Positive Discipline in Seattle and has been working in China for the past several years training adults in Positive Discipline. To have her here in our school community is a joy and a gift. We are so fortunate to have her at QAE.



When our QAE Hiring Team unanimously selected Paulina as our candidate, there was one challenge: Paulina needed her Chilean visa renewed. Undaunted as a QAE community, we worked with SPS to hire Paulina. SPS supported us by providing legal support for the visa renewal process and QAE PTSA kindly funded Paulina's flight to Chile to ensure that she could start now rather than several months from now. All the hard work was worth it to get Paulina at our school!

Paulina's hire was only possible due to PTSA funding. PTSA increased our counselor position from 0.6 to 0.8 this year, which is a significant increase financially. Staff and I are so grateful to PTSA for their commitment to having outstanding educators working with our children. Thank you to the QAE Hiring Team, PTSA Board, SPS HR and Paulina for all the hard work that went into the visa renewal process. This was a team effort!

**Ready Math: New 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Grade Math Curriculum at QAE!** Thank you PTSA for funding our brand-new [Ready Math](#) curriculum and [iReady assessment tool](#) for all 2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade students. We are one of only two SPS schools piloting this dynamic, differentiated, research-based curriculum. All 2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade teachers took Ready Math training before school started, the resources arrived in time for the first day of school and we are so excited to have these new resources to make a difference for our students' mathematical understanding. PTSA paid for additional professional development to take place throughout the year. QAE parents can look forward to weekly updates on what the class is working on and what families can try at home (games, recipes, etc.) to increase real world practice of the math concepts being taught. Staff and I look forward to sharing these resources and updates with families at 9/27's Curriculum Night and throughout the year.

**Curriculum Night:** **Thursday 9/27/18 6:30 - 8:00 pm at John Marshall:** For new QAE families, Curriculum Night is an annual SPS evening information session for parents. This year, QAE parents/guardians will begin in the John Marshall auditorium/cafeteria at 6:30pm for staff introductions and an overview of our five pillars and QAE foundational elements, such as Project Based Learning (PBL), social emotional learning and innovative technology. Then parents/guardians will move to your child's classroom where your child's teacher will provide a presentation from the grade group team on academic programs, social emotional learning and supporting your child at home.

We begin in the John Marshall auditorium/cafeteria at 6:30 pm for staff introductions and an overview of QAE pillars. A 20-minute presentation will be offered by each classroom teacher in their room at 7 pm and repeated at 7:30pm to accommodate families with more than one child. Beginning at 7:30 pm, Janine Roy will be available in the cafeteria to answer any remaining questions.

## Upcoming Events:

**Back to School BBQ** **Saturday 9/15 (11 - 3 pm):** Don't forget: PTSA is hosting a [Back-to-School BBQ](#) at Woodland Park on Saturday, Sept. 15th from 11am-3pm. Let's relax at the park and have BBQ lunch while our kiddos enjoy play and hanging with their school friends or making new ones. Lunch will feature hamburgers, cheeseburgers, hot dogs and veggie burgers along with the sides! [Please RSVP today](#) -- this helps us plan for how much food we need! [RSVP now for the Back-to-School BBQ](#)  
**Volunteers needed:** if you can help with grilling, set-up or breakdown or helping with the bubble station/game organizer, please email Seth Essmeier at [sethrra@gmail.com](mailto:sethrra@gmail.com)

**Monday Morning Meetings** **Every Monday morning at 9:05 am:** QAE had a long tradition of coming together as an entire school community first thing Monday mornings to build community and get ready for the week ahead. For the past two years, our limited cafeteria space prohibited these beloved weekly gatherings. We are so happy to have more space starting this year so that we can resume this important practice. Here is a great article on the impact of gathering together on Monday mornings to regulate our emotions and focus on learning: <https://www.edutopia.org/video/morning-meetings-building-community-classroom>. First thing Monday morning, students will go to class, teachers will take attendance, and then classes will be escorted to the auditorium/cafeteria for a 15-minute gathering. Parents and preschoolers are welcome to join us – space is reserved for you on the benches circling the students. This week, we will start with a welcome, our weekly birthday recognition and then 5<sup>th</sup> graders will share our school wide Character Trait focus for the month: being brave.

**1<sup>st</sup> Fire Drill:** **Monday 9/17 at 9:45 am**

**Spirit Days: Every Friday:** Providing opportunities for students to be part of a team or club helps us to build community and have some fun together. Queen Anne Elementary declares that every Friday is Spirit Day. Students are invited to wear QAE colors (purple or orange) or Seahawks colors (blue or green) or a team shirt. This is an invitation, not a requirement. We will begin on Friday, September 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Individual Picture Day:** **Tuesday 9/25/18.** Retakes are 10/2. Order forms were sent home in orange folders and are available in the school office.



**Jog-a-Thon:** **10/11/18** Now that school is underway, let's get ready to help our students support the things we love about QAE! The Jog-A-Thon, our only student-driven fundraiser of the year, is just around the corner! [Next week in your child's orange folder](#), look for a flyer with details about the jog-a-thon and **easy** instructions to get your student started with online fundraising in 10 minutes or less.

If you'd like to volunteer on the 11th, an online signup sheet will be coming soon!

Parents and family can purchase adult size jog-a-thon t-shirts for \$10 each to show their QAE spirit while supporting the PTSA. As always, each student will receive a Jog-A-Thon t-shirt at no cost, celebrating their efforts. [Click here to purchase your shirt online by Wednesday, 9/20.](#) **New this year:** \*New school = new course! \*We are looking for QAE parent-run businesses to sponsor this year's Jog-A-Thon. As a thank you for your support, you'll get your business's logo on this year's Mission: Possible t-shirt. Contact Nicole Forrest at [nicoleforrest@gmail.com](mailto:nicoleforrest@gmail.com).

**Back to School PTSA Checklist:** We know that start of school is a busy time with a fair share of information overload. We've put together a single form where you can pay your student's fees and fill in your directory information. You can also join the PTSA or share your volunteer interests.

Please take a few minutes to complete the QAE Back-to-School Form. It only needs to be done once per family. Please complete the form by **Friday, September 14th**. Questions? Contact the PTSA at [communications@qaepsa.org](mailto:communications@qaepsa.org)

[Complete the QAE Back-to-School Form](#)

**Bussing Update:** I feel like our community has climbed a mountain as we relocated and settled in to our new building. Our unexpected challenge of significant bus delays has given us a new mountain to climb together. I so appreciate all QAE parents collaboratively tackling this next challenge together. Your ideas, suggestions, volunteering, and helpful coordination are all greatly appreciated! Thanks to everyone's hard work, it has improved since the beginning of the year. But it is not smooth sailing yet! Thank you QAE parents for your creative problem-solving as we tackled our bussing challenges together. By the end of this week, SPS Transportation was regularly updating the school and parents through robo-calls, which allows QAE to communicate updates to families by emails. Parents have been fantastic coordinating drop-offs and pick-ups. SPS reports that they have 50 drivers in training and are hiring for 40 additional driver positions.

Reminders:

- Morning drop off is in the staff parking lot starting at 8:15 am.
- Staff are supervising on the playground starting at 8:15 am.
- After school pick up zone is in the school bus zone on NE 68<sup>th</sup> Street. If no parking is available, the only alternative is to park on side streets and enter John Marshall.
- Parents are updated by email if the school is notified that a route is late in the morning and afternoon.
- Staff will continue to escort students onto buses throughout the year.
- Parents are regularly updating the school, making suggestions and volunteering to help. We so appreciate you!
- If you have suggestions or ideas, please email [jbroy@seattleschools.org](mailto:jbroy@seattleschools.org). I am working hard to respond to parents ASAP, and I appreciate your understanding as my email volume has risen dramatically in the past two weeks!

## Parent Help Wanted:

- Lost and Found Coordinator/Director
- Running Club Coordinator

**Running Club:** We have students who are keen to start our QAE Running Club at John Marshall. They have planned a track and are ready to go! Running Club is an important part of Queen Anne Elementary, as every QAE Explorer is a member. Students can run on our on-site track to build up their laps and achieve their running goals throughout the year. We need some parent assistance to get the Running Club 'up and running' as soon as possible. If you are interested in helping with our initial set up, please email Principal Janine Roy at [jbroy@seattleschools.org](mailto:jbroy@seattleschools.org). Looking forward to a great running year ahead!